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MEDIA RELEASE

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MATULE NAMED DIRECTOR OF ORIENTATION AND RETENTION AT UM

MISSOULA--

Frank Matule became director of orientation and retention at the University of Montana July 1, succeeding Maggie Doolen, who resigned.

Matule directed the Newman Center, which is associated with the University, for 10 years before joining the UM staff a year ago as counselor in the cooperative education program. He holds a B.A. in philosophy from Carroll College and a doctorate in ministry from San Francisco Theological Union.

In his new position Matule will work with the campus community on developing the UM retention plan; conduct research on attrition and retention; and administer tutoring, alcohol education and other programs directed at helping students with personal and academic problems.

He will also coordinate orientation sessions, scheduled each quarter for students new to the campus or returning after a break in their college education.

Noting that the University is becoming a learning center for older students as well as for those just out of high school, Matule said he was particularly cognizant of the need for the University to accommodate people in mid-life transitions who return to college to prepare for new careers or for other reasons.

"One of my principal objectives is to help remove some of the psychological barriers that students face, such as isolation and loneliness, so they can adjust well to university life and have more opportunity for success in school and after graduation," he added.

Matule's first big assignment in his new post will be to coordinate the orientation sessions slated July 8 and 9 and Aug. 5 and 6. Students attending

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MATULE NAMED DIRECTOR-- add one

will learn about academic, social and other aspects of the University in meetings with faculty advisers and student leaders. Sessions are also offered for parents on financial aid and other topics of interest to them.

Matule said students attending the first orientation this summer should sign in at Jesse Hall Thursday, July 8. Those with surnames with initials A-L sign in at 9 a.m. and those with initials from M-Z, at 9:45.

Information about orientation is available at the Center for Student Development, 243-4714.

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